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BA 10/19/01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Ryoichi Shimizu)

Serial No.: 08/883,322)

Title: SELECTABLE RECORDING FRAME
RATE VIDEO TAPE RECORDER)

Filing Date: June 26, 1997)

Case No.: 112857-099)

Examiner: Thai Tran

Group Art Unit: 2619

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OCT 24 2001

Technology Center 2600

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

The following remarks are in response to the Official Office Action entered in the above identified patent application and mailed on April 13, 2001. Claims 1-14 are pending in the application. All of the claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,104,858 to Suzuki in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,229,890 to Okauchi. Applicant respectfully traverses.

In order to establish prima facie obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art. In the present case, each of the independent claims include features which are not taught or suggested by either Suzuki or Okauchi.